



# The United Voice

*"USW Local 310's Information Resource"*

2/8/2021

Sisters and Brothers,

Here are some updates on upcoming union meetings and the Officer Elections being held this April. We will resume our monthly membership meetings starting with our February meeting. February's meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 am. Our March monthly membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 am. The March meeting is when we hold nominations for our Officers, Divisional Chairs, and Policy member positions. Members in good standing who wish to run for a position and who will not be in attendance at either meeting can submit a letter of acceptance for the position, provided that they are nominated for that position, prior to the nomination meetings. There was a case that went to the Supreme Court that struck down the USW constitutional requirement that nominees for officer positions must have attended at least one third of union meetings held in the 24 months prior to the month in which elections are held. This meeting requirement, however, is still required for those running for the four Divisional Chair positions or the Policy member position. Due to the Covid pandemic we have only held 16 union meetings in the last 24 months, so one third calculates to 5.3. This rounds down to 5 meetings attended in the last 24 months through March 2021 as a requirement

There have been lengthy discussions about how to hold safe elections in these trying times. We will loosen the restrictions on absentee ballots and allow any eligible voter who requests one to receive one. We will double the amount of days from 2 to 4 that we will be voting at the union hall. Most shifts will have more than one after shift opportunity to stop by and vote. This is in an attempt to lessen the rush and help us ensure we can social distance when casting our ballots. We are committed to being diligent in keeping the hall disinfected and we will purchase enough golf sized pencils that can be discarded after each vote is cast. Masks will be required. The dates and times of the election are as follows:

Monday April 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup>, polls will be open from 4:00 am to 10:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Polls will be closed from 10:00 am till 1:00 pm these three days. On Thursday April 29<sup>th</sup> the polls will be open from 4:00 am till 10:00 am only. This early poll closure on Thursday will make it easier on our tellers, who will put in a long week in the service of our local union.

If you are interested in being an election teller and are not running for a position please contact the union hall at 288-9547. Thank you in advance for your service.

On another note, if you have changed your address please contact the union hall so we can update our files. There will be a mailing going out to all members notifying them of election dates and times.

In Solidarity,

Steve Vonk  
President USW Local 310L